

Appl. No.: 10/054,709
Amdt. dated 06/14/2006
Reply to Office action of February 22, 2006

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 3, page 14, of the specification with the following paragraph:

The application 180 in the STB 190 identifies the service a subscriber wishes to receive through receipt of application level data received from the MOD service 150. After the subscriber selects a movie, the application 180 within the STB 15 interprets the application level data previously been created by the MOD service 60 and provides the viewer a list of movies available, typically through the use of a GUI. Next, the application instructs the generic STB session manager 195 to generate a session setup request for the subscriber selected movie. This session request is routed to SESS-G 160, which is identified by the MOD service 150 in the application level data received from the MOD service 150. The application identifies the SESS-G 160, rather than the MOD service 150 because all of the routing work that was completed by the VOD session manager 55 in FIG. 1 is handled by the SESS-G 160. This only has to be implemented one time in the network irrespective of the service that is implemented and allows for a much lighter-weight protocol to be used in communicating with the VOD server 145, whose function is simplified in the system of FIG. 3. Thus, session request generation is performed in generally the same manner as in blocks 65-80 of FIGs. 2A and 2B, but the session request is transmitted to the SESS-G 160 and on to the MOD service 150 rather than directly the VOD server 145. To effect this routing, the session request, and more specifically, private data in the session request, contains routing information which takes the session request from the SESS-G 160 to the SVC-G 155 and the MOD service 150. The SRM 170 routes to the SESS-G 160, using existing, standard data fields in the session request indicating an NSAP (network service access point) address.